

P. Km.

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14 September 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: 88-51: The Significance of the New Indonesian Government

Background

1. 88-51 was initiated at the request of the Special Assistant, Intelligence, Department of State. Timing of the completion of the estimate has been arranged with the NSC Staff which has indicated its need for an estimate on this subject.

Substance

2. The differences of opinion which were expressed at the coordination meetings appeared to spring solely from differences of emphasis. These were ironed out at the representatives' meetings to the declared satisfaction of the participants. The points which came under most discussion were: (a) the degree of immediate danger the present Indonesian government represents; and (b) the present strength and future potential of the anti-Communist opposition. Throughout this discussion, the G-2 representatives took a more alarmist view than the present text reflects.

3. In the process of resolving these differences of emphasis, it seemed advisable to the Board to omit a sentence which ran: "We do not believe that . . . the Communists will be able to gain control over the government during the expected life of this cabinet." The G-2 representative reserved his position, to be determined after consultation with his principal, on the question of deleting this sentence.

DOCUMENT NO. 2
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
IT DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S 61991
NEXT REVIEW DATE:
AUTH: HP 70-2
DATE 1-30-81 REVIEWER: 372044

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